(c) whether representations have been received from handloom weavers and their organisation to increase the quantum of assistance by way of loan and subsidy to the extent of Rs. 25,000 per house; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India introduced the Centrally Sponsored Scheme called "Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme" for handloom weavers from the beginning of Seventh Five Year Plan i.e. 1985-86. The scheme is implemented primarily, with a view to provide suitable work-place to the weavers and in turn to achieve better productivity. The scheme is implemented by respective State Governments through either handloom Apex Cooperative Societies, handloom development corporations, primary societies or any specialised agencies set by concerned State Governments for execution of such projects.

(c) and (d) As a result of number of requests received from various State Governments and handloom agencies to enhance the unit cost and Government subsidy share for construction of House-cum-Workshed and keeping in view the escalation in the cost of construction, the Government of India has modified the Workshed-cum-Housing scheme for the year 1991-92. Under the new modified scheme unit cost of each category of house and workshed has been revised upwards. Central subsidy portion has been also revised substantially to give a boost to the programme and relief to the weavers. Present funding pattern of the scheme is as given below :—

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Cost of unit	Max. central subsidy	Loan	Weavers contribution
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Workshed	5,000	4,000	—	1,000
2	Rural Housing-cum-Workshed	20,000	14,000	5,000	1,000
3	Urban Housing-cum-Workshed	30,000	14,000	14,000	2,000

Meetings of the Representatives of Apex Handloom Weavers Cooperatives

612. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state whether a conference or meeting of the representatives of the Apex Handloom Weavers' Cooperatives in the country is proposed to be held to know their difficulties to take up export business directly and to solve them in the interests of handloom weavers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) : Government of India, as a regular ongoing exercise, holds periodic meetings with representatives of bodies involved in production of handlooms including with Apex Handloom Weavers Cooperatives to find out difficulties being faced by them in exporting their products and to devise ways and means of increasing handloom exports including direct export by Apex Handloom Weavers Cooperatives.

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर के कपड़े का निर्माण किया जाना

613. श्री **विश्वासराव रामराव पाटिल** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मंत्रालय की वस्त्र समिति ने हाल ही में बंबई में एक सेमिनार का आयोजन किया था ;